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BOROUGH OF ST. IVES (HUNTS.)

21 NOV 1961

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR 1960

1960

BOROUGH OF SAINT IVES (HUNTS.)

Mayor

Councillor C. M. HAIGH
(May - Dec.)

Aldermen

D. Bryant
G. W. Robb
T. H. Burgess
G. W. Kiddle

Councillors

G. Anderson
G. W. Burgess
E. R. Dansie
Miss H. M. Grove
Mrs. E. Holmes
E. R. Ilott
Mrs. M. Hudson
E. O. Ruston
R. H. Stiles
(Mayor Jan.-May)
R. A. Singfield
D. M. Westrope

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health

J. CALDWELL,
L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.&S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

J. G. REESON,
C.S.I.B., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.H.E., Cert. Bldg. Insp.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Borough of St. Ives (Hunts.) for the year ending 31st December, 1960.

To:-

The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of St. Ives (Hunts).

Your Worship and Members of the Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1960.

The retirement of the Town Clerk Mr. G. L. Day and his deputy Mr. F. Favell took place towards the end of the year, and their devoted services to the Council will long be remembered.

The Birth Rate for the Borough continues to rise steadily and maintains a very considerable increase over the national average. There was an increase of more than 20% in the number of births credited to the town this year as compared with 1959 — a fact which is to some extent related to the increased population of the town.

The Death Rate shows little variation from last year's figures, and remains well below the figure for England and Wales as a whole. A pleasing factor to note from the statistics is the complete absence of infant deaths during the year a state of affairs which also existed two years ago.

The incidence of Notifiable Infectious disease was again extremely low, relatively few cases having occurred It is a pleasing feature to note that for the ninth consecutive year no case of either poliomyelitis or diphtheria has been reported.

The Slum clearance programme has proceeded satisfactorily and private development continued at an increased rate in the northern part of the Borough.

The Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme is still awaited, as the Ministry of Housing and Local Government indicate that no grant would be forthcoming. The continual absence of the scheme is very much regretted and is becoming a very serious problem in view of the development taking place in the town.

The Water supply is generally quite satisfactory, but in some parts of the town difficulty is experienced in supplying water at a suitable pressure. To overcome this problem the Council is considering the construction of a Water Storage Tank on Houghton Hill.

In conclusion I should like to thank Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration to me, and to their Officers for all the help which they have given me during the year.

I am, Your obedient Servant,

J. CALDWELL.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area	2,326 acres
Rateable Value	£64,265
Value of Penny Rate	£260
Number of inhabited Houses (approx.) ...	1,296
Population	3,860

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	55	41	96
Illegitimate	—	2	2
Total	55	43	98

Still Births	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	1	—	1
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	1	—	1

Deaths (all ages)	M.	F.	Total
	16	23	39

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	25.4
Comparability Factor	.97
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population	24.6
(Ditto for England and Wales)	17.1
Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	10.1
(Ditto for England and Wales)	19.7
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	10.1
Comparability Factor	.89
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population	9.0
(Ditto for England and Wales)	11.5

The following table indicates the trends in the Birth Rate and Death Rate for the district over the past 5 years and compares them with those for the County of Huntingdon and for England and Wales.

BIRTH RATE	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
St. Ives Borough ...	16.9	18.9	21.8	22.2	24.6
County of Huntingdon ...	18.5	20.3	19.8	19.6	19 7
England and Wales	15 7	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1
DEATH RATE					
St. Ives Borough ...	10.5	10.0	10.5	9.1	9.0
County of Huntingdon ...	10.2	10.2	10.1	10.1	10.6
England and Wales ...	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5

Deaths of Infants under 1 year	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	—	—	—
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—

Death Rates of infants under 1 year.

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	Nil
(Ditto for England and Wales)	21.7

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Registrar General's List)

List No.	Cause	M.	F.
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0
2	Tuberculosis, other	0	0
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0
5	Whooping Cough	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0
8	Measles	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	0
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	0
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	0
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	1	4
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0
16	Diabetes	0	0
17	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	2	4
18	Coronary disease, angina	3	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	0	0
20	Other heart disease	2	6
21	Other circulatory disease	0	2
22	Influenza	0	0
23	Pneumonia	2	0
24	Bronchitis	2	0
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	0	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	0	0
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	0	0
33	Motor vehicle accidents	0	1
34	All other accidents	0	1
35	Suicide	0	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0
	Total all causes ...	16	23

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) Laboratory Facilities

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area.—

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst, (S. Greenburgh, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tenison Road, Cambridge. Tel.: Cambridge 2097.

(b) Ambulance Services

Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjuction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders. Tel.: Huntingdon 348.

(c) Home Nursing

A Nurse/Midwife resident in St. Ives (Tel.: St. Ives 2321) employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the Borough.

(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres

(i) The following services are provided by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Minor Ailments	Schoolchildren	3rd Friday in month. 10.30–11.30 a.m.	Health Clinic, Station Approach, St. Ives.
Infant Welfare	Children (0-5 yrs.)	Every Friday. 2-4 p.m.	Ditto.
Dental	Pre-school and schoolchildren. Pre-natal and nursing mothers.	Every Monday 9 a.m.-12 noon. 1.30-4.30 p.m. Every Saturday 9 a.m.-12 noon.	Ditto.

(ii) The following Health Services are provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday. 10 a.m.-12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Tuesdays, 3-6.30 p.m. Thursdays, 4-6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge
	Males	Mondays, 4.30-6.30 p.m. Tuesdays, 5.30-7 p.m.	Out-Patients Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
	Females and Children	Tuesdays, 10.30-12 noon Thursdays, 4.30-6.30p.m.	
Orthopaedic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	**1st, 2nd and 4th Fridays in month (Sister)** 10 a.m.-12 noon.	**Health Clinic, Station Approach, St. Ives**

(iii) The following service is provided under the Supplementary Ophthalmic Scheme of the National Health Service:—

Clinic	Patients seen	When held	Where held
Ophthalmic	Pre-school and schoolchildren	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment except in emergency). 10 a.m.-12 noon 2-3 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetrical, Gynaecoligical and Dental out-patient clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

(e) **Hospital Services.**

Fever. Cases of infectious disease requiring hospital treatment are admitted to Isolation Hospitals at Cambridge, Peterborough or Ely.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Primrose Lane Maternity Hospital, Huntingdon and Mill Road Hospital, Cambridge.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

1. Water Supply.

The Chesterton and Saint Ives Joint Water Board still supplies the water consumed in the Borough. The arrangement whereby the Borough takes approximately 1,000 gallons per day from the Rural Council's mains on Houghton Hill to help the residents in the higher part of the town continued throughout the year.

The figures given below showing the average daily consumption in June and December for the past 5 years indicate the increased demand for water.

June	1956 — 120.0	December	1956 — 120.3
	1957 — 132.4		1957 — 119.4
	1958 — 135.0		1958 — 132.9
	1959 — 163.1		1959 — 144.6
	1960 — 165.9		1960 — 165.0

Anticipating a still greater increase in the demand the Council asked the Board to make an amount of up to 300,000 g.p.d. available for our use. This could not be guaranteed but the Board did say that it would make up to 200,000 g.p.d. available over a period of 24 hours.

Owing to the supply position and the increased demand it appears that a position has now been reached when the Council will have to seriously consider the rejection of plans for future development.

Consulting Engineers have been requested to prepare a design for a Water Tower to be placed in the higher part of the Town.

Wells serving the seven properties in the Wilderness area of the Borough began to fail in the Autumn and the Council extended its mains to this area. One house was connected to the main before the end of the year.

Approximately 1⅝ miles of new mains were laid during the year as follows:-

8″ — 224 yards.
4″ — 1583 yards.
3″ — 1056 yards.

The rainfall for the year was 26.55 inches which was 11.34 inches above the previous year.

Main Supply.

Quality		Satisfactory
Samples taken		9
Unsatisfactory samples later corrected		1
Estimated number of premises on supply —		
	Direct	1276
	Standpipe	12
Estimated population served —		
	Direct	3802
	Standpipe	36

Other Samples.

Samples taken	18
Samples found unfit	16
Estimated number of premises on well supply	8
Estimated population served by well ...	22

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Unfortunately there is no real progress to report in connection with the proposed Modified Sewage Disposal Scheme.

During the year one of the Ministry's Engineering Inspectors came to the Town on a fact finding visit with a view to ascertaining whether any further economies could be effected in the proposed Scheme. He carefully checked all details and plans and visited the various works in the Borough including the point of discharge of the existing sewers. His report is now awaited.

3. Rivers and Streams.

No works were carried out during the year.

4. Closet Accommodation.

The collection of nightsoil from the remaining houses needing this service has again been undertaken by the Rural District Council by Contract. The number of pails needing collection has again been reduced.

5. Public Cleansing.

The neighbouring Rural District Council has again carried out the refuse collection satisfactorily. The number of dustbins increased during the year with the number of new houses and the figure will increase considerably during the coming year.

6. Swimming Pool.

Several Sites for a pool were visited by a Committee consisting of both members of the Borough and Rural District Councils, and it was decided to recommend that a site at Houghton Road was the most suitable. The Joint Committee gave instructions for preliminary negotiations to be commenced for the use of the site for a Pool.

7. Shops Act.

No infringements were found during the year.

8. Caravan Sites.

An application for a licence to use land as a site for Caravans was received but it was refused in spite of the fact that Planning Permission had been given.

A further application was made when the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act came into force and a licence was then issued with Conditions.

9. Smoke Abatement.

A nuisance was created for a period extending over two days by a boiler in a local works. Investigations revealed a fault in the machinery which was quickly put right by the owner.

10. Bed Bugs.

No reports of infestation were received during the year and no premises were found to be infested.

11. Rat and Mice Destruction.

The Rodent Operator has continued to inspect properties and I am pleased to say that the amount of infestation discovered was very slight. The sewers have been examined and found free from infestation.

12. Petroleum Acts.

The number of licences issued during the year was as under:-

Over 1,000 gallons	2
500–1,000 gallons	10
under 500 gallons	10

13. Slaughterhouse.

The Council during the year decided to negotiate for sufficient land for the erection of a Slaughterhouse and lairage. Difficulties were experienced however and the Council passed a resolution to acquire the land by Compulsory Purchase.

A report was submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Fisheries in accordance with the Slaughterhouse Act.

INSPECTIONS UNDER THE FACTORIES ACTS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6	10	30	Nil	Nil
(2) Section 7	40	67	Nil	Nil
Total	50	97	Nil	Nil

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) (a) insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) unsuitable or defective	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other Offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FLOUR.

Complaints of illness after meals in a family were investigated and it was thought that flour might be the cause. Samples of flour were submitted to the Analyst who discovered traces of Nitrites. The Manufacturers were notified and further samples taken from the Grocer. Finally the contamination was found to be in the food store of the person making the complaint.

ICE CREAM.

Number of Retailers on register	20
Number of Inspections	71

6 samples of ice cream were submitted for examination with the following results.

Grade 1	5
Grade 2	1

MEAT AND SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

Again 100% meat inspection has been maintained and the following table shows the number of animals killed, carcases and offal inspected and condemned.

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	716	3	599	3265
Number inspected	716	3	599	3265
(All diseases except tuberculosis):—				
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	2	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	121	—	1	162
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	16.89	—	0.50	5.01
(Tuberculosis only):—				
Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	11	—	—	39
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.53	—	—	1.10
Cysticercosis:—				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	1	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	1	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT,

		Condemnations				
		Number killed	Number of whole carcases	Weight of whole carcases	Weight of Parts and Organs	Total Weight
Cattle	.. ..	716	—	—	2273 lb.	2273 lb.
Calves	.. ..	3	—	—	—	—
Sheep and Lambs	..	599	2	66 lb.	3 lb.	69 lb.
Pigs	.. ..	3265	5	441 lb.	1823 lb.	2264 lb.
Total	..	4583	7	507 lb.	4099 lb.	4606 lb.

Total number of animals killed 4,583.

Total weight of meat condemned 2 tons 1 cwt. 1 st.

All condemned meat is taken from the slaughterhouse for sterilisation by a Contractor.

FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1960

	cwt.	st.	lb.	oz.
Fresh Fish		5	10	—
Cat and Dog Food			10	5
Fruit Salad			6	12
Tinned Fruit		2	7	8
Chopped Pork			4	—
Tinned Ox Tongue			6	—
Danish Pork			4	8
Fresh Meat		4	5	8
Tinned Vegetables		7	9	10
Frozen Fish		2	1	8
Frozen Meat		1	2	—
Chicken Pie			8	14
Turkey Pie			10	3
Potato Chips			5	4½
Steak and Kidney Pie			7	1
Puff Pastry			7	8
Sausage Rolls			2	12
Frozen Steak		1	7	14
Frozen Fruit			4	14
Fish Fingers		1	7	8
Fish Cakes			6	8
Corn			4	1
Fried Chicken			2	12
Chicken Joint			2	10
Tomatoes			2	2
Cooked Ham	3	3	15	7
Corned Beef		4	6	4
Pork Shoulder		3	8	15
Meat Loaf			3	12
Luncheon Meat			4	3

Ox Kidneys		4	—
Chitterlings	2	—	—
Loin Beef	1	9	—
Legs Pork	2	12	—
Ox Livers		6	8

FOOD POISONING.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

There is now only one bakehouse in the Borough which has been maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FOOD PREMISES.

Inspections have been made at frequent intervals of all the food premises in the Borough, which generally are maintained in a very satisfactory condition.

HOUSING

New Houses.

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows:-

Council	13
Private	57

Overcrowding.

A case of overcrowding was immediately abated by the tenants when they were visited and had the offence pointed out to them.

INSPECTION AND ACTION DURING THE YEAR.

Number of houses found to be in state unfit for habitation ...	13
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed to render the premises fit for habitation ...	0
Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was signed that the premises owned would not be relet for habitation ...	4
Number of houses found unfit and upon which a Demolition Order was made ...	8
Number of houses found to be unfit and upon which a Closing Order was made ...	0
Number of houses found to be unfit where owner voluntarily agreed not to relet ...	1

Grants.

During the year 6 applications were made for Standard Grants and these were approved. Two applications were made for Discretionary Grants one of which was approved. The remaining application was turned down because the Council was not satisfied that the house would have a useful life of 30 years.

J. G. REESON.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector.

TUBERCULOSIS

Total number on Register on 31st December, 1960 ... **20**

Pulmonary: **15** Non-Pulmonary: **5**

Age Periods	New Cases—Diagnosed				New Cases—Transfers			
	Respiratory		Non-Res.		Respiratory		Non-Res.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	1	..	..	..	..	...	..	..
55	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
65 and upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	**2**
Whooping Cough	—
Diphtheria	—
Measles	—
Acute Pneumonia	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—
Typhoid Fever	—
Erysipelas	**1**
Acute Poliomyelitis	—
Infective Hepatitis	—
Dysentery	—
Food Poisoning	—
	3

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